

SONG-BROWN HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM SITE VISIT EVALUATION REVIEW

REGISTERED NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAM: University of California, Irvine
Program in Nursing Science

Date of Site Visit: March 12, 2009

Site Review Staff: Terrie Smith Program Analyst and Manuela Lachica, Song-
Brown Program Director

Names and Titles of Persons Interviewed: Ellen M. Lewis, RN MSN, FAA, Associate
Director, UCI Nursing Science; Frank L. Meyskens, Jr. MD, FACP, Associate Vice
Chancellor, College of Health Sciences; Jill Berg, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, UCI
Nursing Science; Ruth Mulnard, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor, UCI Nursing
Science; Mary Knudtson, DNSc, FNP, FAAN, Clinical Professor, UCI Nursing Science;
Linda Hill, Management Services Officer, UCI Nursing Science; Sandy Miller, Student
Affairs Officer, UCI Nursing Science; Rozane Beach, Financial Analyst, UCI Nursing
Science; Robert Johnson, Research Librarian, UCI Nursing Science.

Site visit questions relate to the Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Act Standards for Registered Nursing Education Programs, established by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 128200, et seq. Each training program standard is presented in italics:

Section I. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall be operated by an accredited California School of Nursing or shall be approved by the Regents of the University of California or by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges, or shall be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing pursuant to Section 2834-2837, Article 8, Chapter 6, Div. 2, of the Business and Professions Code, or the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and that is approved by the Board of Registered Nursing.*

The following questions relate to **Section I** of the Training Program Standards:

1. Is the education program operated by an accredited California School of Nursing?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

2. Has the program been approved by one of the following entities?

The Board of Registered Nursing?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Board of Governors of the CA Community Colleges?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Trustees of the California State University?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Regents of the University of California?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. What is the NCLEX first time pass rate? N/A First Graduating Class is June 2009
4. What is the overall NCLEX pass rate? N/A
5. How many students do you train each year? Average of 150

Comments: Song Brow Funding has allowed UC Irvine to recruit 10 additional students, there is only one BSN admitting class in a year and it's in the fall. Expected to graduate 50 students each year starting in 2011.

Seniors - Class of 2009	36 Students	8 Males
Juniors – Class of 2010	46 Students	7 Males
Sophomores – Class of 2011	44 Students	4 Males
Freshman – Class of 2012	33 Students	6 Males

Section II. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of education in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare registered nursing services in such neighborhoods and communities.*

The following questions relate to **Section II** of the Education Program Standards:

1. Does the education program include a component of training in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic areas, or rural communities (hereinafter “component of training”) that is organized to prepare registered nurses for services in such neighborhoods and communities?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

If no, provide comments: _____

2. Describe the location of the education program’s “component of training”?
Check which category(ies) apply:

Training Site Name and Address	Medically Underserved Multi-cultural Community	Lower Socio- Economic Area	Rural Area	Other
UCI Medical Center 101 The City Drive Orange, CA 92868	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UCI Santa Ana FHC 800 N. Main Street Santa Ana, CA 92702	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orange Coast Memorial 9920 Talbert Avenue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fountain Valley, CA 92				
Children's Hospital of Orange County 455 S. Main Street Orange, CA 92868	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orange County Public Health Department PO Box 355 Santa Ana, CA 92702	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: The following local hospitals have generously provided support for UC Irvine's Program in Nursing Science: HOAG Hospital, Mission Hospital, and Saddleback Memorial Medical Center.

3. Are all of the program's students required to spend part of their education in patient care in the "component of training"?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Did the site review include a visit to the "component of training"?

Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

Comments: The Song-Brown staff decided not to visit Family Health Center at UC Irvine because staff had been there on the last site visit and there was a time restriction for this visit. We visited the Clinical Skills Center on campus, this is a hi-tech center which incorporates the latest and best innovations in interactive medical instructional technology. Each exam and interview room is equipped with video cameras linked to an audio visual center used for teaching and assessment. The nursing faculty instructs and observes students' interactions with professionally trained and standardized patients, and then provides a personal evaluation of their performances.

4. Check all applicable categories that describe the "component of training"?

Name of Training Site	Site Designation*				
	Non-Profit Hospital	Private Hospital	VA Facility	County Facility	Government Owned or Operated Facility
UCI Medical Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UCI Santa Ana FHC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orange Coast Memorial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHOC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orange County Public Health Department	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section II of the Standards (optional):
UC Irvine's Program in Nursing Science is quite new, but already has established itself as among the finest in the region. With a unique curriculum focused on

research and on providing care to underserved socio-economic groups, the program promises to improve health care in Orange County by producing compassionate and highly qualified nurses.

- Section III.** *Appropriate strategies shall be developed by each education institution receiving funds under the Act to encourage Registered Nurses who are educated in the education program funded by the Act, to enter into practice in areas of unmet priority need for primary care family physicians within California as defined by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to as “areas of need”). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:*
- A.** *An established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of need*
 - B.** *An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need.*
 - C.** *A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an area of need, which will enhance the potential of education program graduates to practice in such an area.*

The following questions relate to **Section III** of the Education Program Standards:

1. Does the program have an established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess or express the following characteristics?

- a) A predisposition to practice in areas of need? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐
- b) A commitment to serve in areas of need? Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Comments: A supplemental application is required for admission that includes a letter of intent that is reviewed by UC Irvine Nursing Admitting Administration.

2. Check all applicable categories that describe the established procedure referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- a) Mission statement speaks to graduate deployment Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐
The University provides multiple support systems which students can access when needed.
- b) Website emphasizes underserved areas, populations Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐
The program prepares its graduates for basic clinical and public-health nursing practice roles across the health care system.
- c) Promotion of mission in interviews of training program applicants Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐
Recruitment of 2nd baccalaureate and transfer students – diverse student population.

- d) Weighting of underserved goals affecting ranking of applicants

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Scoring criteria for the freshman group uses GPA, SAT, volunteer activities, work experience, leadership and recommendation letters.

- e) Special emphasis on recruiting registered nursing students from local community

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

All student admissions are California residents

- f) Developing core faculty with experience in underserved practices

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Faculty are involved in practicing in community clinics and conducting research in underserved populations.

- g) Formally promoting registered nursing careers in high schools, and colleges

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Conducted outreach activities at Santa Ana High School and Saddleback College.

Other (describe): Completion of the program's curriculum will lead to a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Nursing Science, and a nurse that is prepared to provide care to a diverse group of patients through evidence-based practice.

3. Describe the portion of the curriculum geared towards cultural competency.

- a) If cultural competency training is not provided in the program explain why.

Cultural competency/culturally responsive care is a major topic in the first nursing course, Frameworks for Professional Nursing Practice, and is a curriculum thread throughout all nursing courses.

4. Does the program have an established counseling and placement program designed to encourage nursing education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Does the program provide any type of support services for students?

- ☒ NCLEX Preparation -- Define the nature of your NCLEX
☒ Skills Lab preparation in space provided
☒ Tutoring below.
☒ Mentoring
☒ Safety Issue

Are these services free to the students?

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

ATI assessment test is used to prepare students for the NCLEX exam. Nursing faculty act as group leaders to keep students on track.

5. Check all applicable categories that describe the established counseling and placement program referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

a) Faculty advisors/hospital management promote practice Opportunities Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

b) Coordination with Health Professions Education Foundation's RN education scholarships and loan repayment Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

c) Coordination with community healthcare employers in recruiting program graduates Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

Several area hospitals are recruiting UCI nursing graduates; Memorial Care System met with students and provided scholarship opportunities. UCI Medical Center will be holding a dedicated New Grad Program for UCI students. CHOC has added an additional orientation for new graduates in August in order to ensure that UCI graduates can be hired.

d) A program matching registered nurses with underserved areas Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section III of the Standards (optional):

UC Irvine Medical Center is where students receive a significant portion of their clinical experience. It serves a diverse community including a large proportion of patients who are medically indigent or uninsured. During the community health course, students are assigned to community health clinics in Anaheim, Santa Ana, County of Orange, and the Visiting Nurses Association. These training sites address the health care needs of the underserved populations.

Song-Brown Program questions:

1. What is the ratio of faculty to students during clinical training? 8:1

2. Is the faculty member at the clinical training site with the students? Yes

3. If applicable, how do you feel your program benefited from Special Program funding?

As a new program, the funding provided additional resources to launch the program, increase standardized patient and skills lab support, assist with student activities, provide additional clinical instructors to maintain a 8:1 ratio, and provide additional opportunities for faculty development.

The following are general questions relating to the administration of the Song-Brown Registered Nursing Education Program:

1. Do you have any concerns about any of the following processes established for the administration of the Song-Brown Act?

a) The application for Song-Brown funds: Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

b) The oral presentations to the Commission: Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| c) The contract process: | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) The invoice process | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Staff's ability to provide technical assistance: | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) RNSA methodology: | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Is there any information about the Registered Nursing Education Program not covered by the above questions that should be noted or included with this site visit report?

If yes, please comment: The UCI Program in Nursing Science greatly appreciates receiving Song Brown funding to enhance the quality of the program.

Ellen Lewis, Associate Director, UCI Nursing Science, worked many years to establish the UC Irvine Nursing Program, without her there wouldn't be a Nursing Program at UC Irvine. The UCI Clinical Skills Center was most impressive. The Clinical Skills Center provides the nursing students with a truly unique, interactive learning experience in an authentic clinical setting. The Center provides students a hands-on experience with standardized patients and as a result, they are better prepared for their hospital training. We were able to watch a couple of CDs of students interviewing standardized patients. This is a wonderful learning tool, the students will watch the CDs with faculty for a personal evaluation of their performance. We also attended a junior nursing class on Research Methods. A group of eight students gave a presentation on the importance of hand-washing and other control methods on stopping the spread of germs in a hospital settings. The student's presentation was informative and each student showed confidants and poise. The Program in Nursing Science has a new building under construction for expansion and will open in fall 2010.